

CHAPTER XVII.

REFORMATION AND REVOLUTION IN SCOTLAND— THE DEPOSITION OF QUEEN MARY AND THE "DE JURE" OF BUCHANAN.

WHILE allowing the Reformation to drift for the present, in spite of Knox's demands and denunciations, Moray and Maitland had been working their hardest to find a suitable husband for the queen. We know what Knox thought of the plan of marrying her to Don Carlos, or other papist candidate. The Don Carlos scheme happily came to nothing, and was merely a "bogle" set up by Moray and Maitland to frighten Elizabeth. The chief difficulty in the way of a satisfactory solution of the question lay, in fact, not in the humours of Mary but in the moods and jealousies of Elizabeth. From political motives Elizabeth strove to prevent her from matching herself with a husband who might be dangerous to her interests, and Moray and Maitland tried to work on her nervousness to extort the recognition of Mary's claim to the English throne. Elizabeth parried the demand, as she was entitled to do, with the counter-demand for the ratification of the Treaty of Edinburgh. The result was a deadlock, which seriously endangered the English alliance, in spite of the efforts of Moray and Maitland to preserve it on feasible terms.

To this deadlock Mary put an end by abruptly falling in love with the most objectionable suitor in the eyes of both Elizabeth, who rather evasively offered to present her with her own lover, Leicester, and her own advisers, who were ready to welcome Leicester if he would bring the recognition of Mary's claim with him. This suitor was Lord Darnley, son of the expatriated Earl of Lennox, whom Elizabeth, in a thoughtless moment, had allowed to return to Scotland. Mary could hardly have made a poorer choice if her preference had been governed by purely State reasons. Darnley